

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Claims 1-7 and 9-20 are pending in the present application. Claims 1, 6, and 14 are independent. Claims 1, 3-4, 6-7, 11, 14-16, and 18-20 are amended.

REJECTION UNDER 35 U.S.C. § 103

In section 3 on pages 2-7, the Final Office Action rejects claims 1-7 and 9-11 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as allegedly being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 6,494,831 to Koritzinsky (hereinafter "Koritzinsky") in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,405,248 to Wood (hereinafter "Wood"), further in view of U.S. Patent No. 7,162,250 to Misra (hereinafter "Misra"). In section 4 on page 8, the Final Office Action rejects claims 12 and 13 as allegedly being unpatentable over Koritzinsky, Wood, and Misra, further in view of Admitted Prior Art (hereinafter "APA"). In section 5 on pages 8-10, the Final Office Action rejects claims 14-18 and 20 as allegedly being unpatentable over Koritzinsky and Misra. In section 6 on page 11, the Final Office Action rejects claim 19 as allegedly being unpatentable over Koritzinsky, Misra, and APA. Applicant respectfully traverses these rejections.

Independent claims 1, 6, and 14 recite "displaying and highlighting Layer-2 and Layer-3 objects affected by an alarm" (emphasis added). Support for this subject matter appears in the specification in, for example, paragraph [56] on page 15.

Applicant respectfully submits that Koritzinsky fails to disclose, teach, or suggest this subject matter. Page 10 of the Office Action alleges that Koritzinsky discloses highlighted objects in two locations: lines 13-34 of column 6 and lines 8-40 of column 11. Applicant

respectfully submits that neither the cited portions nor Koritzinsky as a whole disclose highlighting Layer-2 and Layer-3 objects affected by an alarm.

Instead of displaying and highlighting an object, Koritzinsky uses an alert module, as described on lines 27-29 of column 7. While this module generates alerts in response to problems with connectivity, there is no disclosure of it displaying or highlighting Layer-2 and Layer-3 objects. Moreover, as described on lines 24-29 of column 9, instead of identifying particular objects, these alerts are intended to prompt operator intervention to investigate the nature of the connectivity problem. Wood, Misra and the allegedly Admitted Prior Art fail to overcome the deficiencies of Koritzinsky.

Accordingly, Applicant respectfully submits that Koritzinsky, Wood, Misra and the allegedly Admitted Prior Art from Applicant's specification fail to disclose, teach, or suggest "displaying and highlighting Layer-2 and Layer-3 objects affected by an alarm," as recited in independent claims 1, 6, and 14.

Applicant respectfully submits that claims 2-5 are allowable based at least on their dependence from claim 1 for the reasons stated above in connection with claim 1. Applicant respectfully submits that claims 7 and 9-13 are allowable based at least on their dependence from claim 6 for the reasons stated above in connection with claim 6. Applicant respectfully submits that claims 15-20 are allowable based at least on their dependence from claim 14 for the reasons stated above in connection with claim 14.

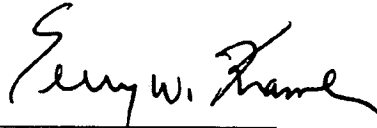
For at least the forgoing reasons, Applicant respectfully requests that the rejection of claims 1-7 and 8-20 under 35 U.S.C. § 103 be withdrawn.

CONCLUSION

While we believe that the instant amendment places the application in condition for allowance, should the Examiner have any further comments or suggestions, it is respectfully requested that the Examiner telephone the undersigned attorney in order to expeditiously resolve any outstanding issues.

In the event that the fees submitted prove to be insufficient in connection with the filing of this paper, please charge our Deposit Account Number 50-0578 and please credit any excess fees to such Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,
KRAMER & AMADO, P.C.



Terry W. Kramer
Registration No.: 41,541

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KRAMER & AMADO, P.C.
1725 Duke Street, Suite 240
Alexandria, VA 22314
Phone: 703-519-9801
Fax: 703-519-9802